

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6402

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USUN NEW YORK 115

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANA 2644

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS, YE, UN

SUBJECT: KOREA AT 30TH UNGA

REFS: STATE 223408, USUN 4302, USUN 4341

1. I CALLED ON FONMIN ASNAJ TODAY, SEPT 20, TO BRING TO HIS IMMEDIATE ATTENTION MATTER OF YARG SPONSORSHIP OF UNFRIENDLY RESOLUTION AND TO EXPRESS MY PERSONAL DISMAY OVER THIS DEVELOPMENT IN LIGHT OF HIS PREVIOUS ASSURANCES TO THE CONTRARY. ASNAJ WAS SINCERELY SHOCKED AND ANGRY WHEN INFORMED THAT YEMEN HAS SIGNED ON AS CO-SPONSOR OF HOSTILE RESOLUTION. HE EMPHASIZED TO ME THAT CIRCULAR INSTRUCTION WAS SENT ALMOST TWO MONTHS AGO NOT ONLY TO YEMEN'S UN MISSION BUT TO ALL YEMENI DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS STRESSING THAT YEMEN'S NEW POLICY ON THE KOREAN QUESTION IS STRICT NEUTRALITY AND DISENGAGEMENT FROM PREVIOUS SOLE SUPPORT FOR NORTH KOREA. (ASNAJ INTERJECTED TO SAY "WHAT DO WE OWE NORTH KOREA WHEN NORTH KOREAN MANUFACTURED GUNS AND AMMUNITION ARE SMUGGLED INTO YEMEN FROM ADEN TO CAUSE TROUBLE IN THE TRIBAL REGIONS?")

2. DRAWING ON PARA 3 USUN 4302 I EMPHASIZED TO ASNAJ NEGATIVE IMPACT CO-SPONSORSHIP OF HOSTILE RESOLUTION WOULD HAVE ON US-YEMENI RELATIONS. ASNAJ REPLIED HE UNDERSTOOD FULLY AND
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CONTINUED THAT EARLIER CIRCULAR INSTRUCTION WAS FOLLOWED BY

ANOTHER ONE SENT ONLY TO THE UN MISSION INDICATING THAT YARG WAS NOT RPT NOT TO CO-SPONSOR THE HOSTILE RESOLUTION DURING THIS UNGA SESSION. ASNAJ SAID THAT THIS YEAR YARG INTENDS TO ABSTAIN DURING THE VOTING BECAUSE "IT IS POLITICALLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR YEMEN TO MAKE A COMPLETE SHIFT AT ONE TIME". ASNAJ ADDED THAT NEXT YEAR YARG WILL LOOK AT MATTER AGAIN AND A VOTE ON THE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION WILL MORE THAN LIKELY BE AUTHORIZED.

3. ASNAJ SAID THAT A TELEGRAM WILL BE SENT IMMEDIATELY TO NEW YORK ASKING FOR INFORMATION AS TO WHAT HAPPENED. ASNAJ PROMISED ME THAT THE YEMEN WILL DEFINITELY NOT RPT NOT VOTE FOR HOSTILE RESOLUTION AND YARG WILL NOW CONSIDER HOW TO DISENGAGE ITSELF FROM SPONSORSHIP OF THE HOSTILE RESOLUTION. (I MENTIONED SIERRA LEONE IS WITHDRAWING ITS SPONSORSHIP.) ASNAJ CONTINUED THAT THE MATTER WILL ALSO BE BROUGHT TO PRESIDENT HAODI'S PERSONAL ATTENTION AND ADDED THAT AMBASSADOR MAKKI IS IN "SERIOUS TROUBLE" NOTING "THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A MAN THINKS HE IS TOO BIG FOR THE JOB".

4. COVMENT: I HAVE JUST SEEN USUN'S 4341 DESCRIBING UN MISOFF'S MEETING WITH YARG PERMREP MAKKI. GIVEN THE STILL VERY PRIMITIVE AND LOOSE YEMENI BUREAUCRACY, IT MAY BE THAT MAKKI TELLING TRUTH. ON OTHER MAKKI HAS LONG BEEN SUSPECT FOR HIS LEFTIST LEANINGS AND IT QUITE POSSIBLE HE MOVED AHEAD ON HIS OWN. MOREOVER, AS A FORMER PRIMIN HE IS, AS ASNAJ SAYS, DIFFICULT TO CONTROL. IN ANY EVENT I BELIEVE ASNAJ WHEN HE SAYS INSTRUCTIONS WERE SENT OUT ON THIS MATTER AND AM CONFIDENT YARG WILL NOT REPEAT NOT VOTE FOR HOSTILE RESOLUTION AND THAT EVERY EFFORT WILL NOW BE MADE TO SEE IF IT CAN DISASSOCIATE ITSELF FROM SPONSORSHIP OF THIS RESOLUTION.
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